IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Schön et al

Title: DEVICE FOR THE VARIABLE ACTUATION OF THE GAS EXCHANGE VALVES OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES AND METHOD FOR OPERATING SUCH A DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH APPLICATION TO AVOID MULTIPLE-DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

sir;

Prior to examination of the present application, please amend as follows: